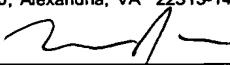


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: October 6, 2003      Signature:  (Marcus J. Millet)

Docket No.: TESSERA 3.3-018 CONT  
CONTIIDIVCONTCONTII  
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: :  
Khandros et al. :  
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Application No.: 09/827,840 : Group Art Unit: 2827  
 :  
Filed: April 6, 2001 : Examiner: J. Mitchell  
 :  
For: MICROELECTRONIC ASSEMBLY HAVING :  
ENCAPSULATED WIRE BONDING LEADS :

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

The present communication is responsive to the Official Action mailed May 6, 2003. A petition for a two-month extension of the term for response to said Official Action, to and including October 6, 2003, is transmitted herewith.

Claim 1-6, 8-18, 22-24, 26-31 and 33-34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by *Hinrichsmeyer et al.*, U.S. Patent 4,996,587. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested. Claim 1 states explicitly that the substrate has an "outline" (ln. 3), whereas the chip has "an outline that is substantially the same as said outline of said substrate" (lns. 10-11). The Official Action does not even allege that any feature in the *Hinrichsmeyer* structure relied upon for rejection meets this recitation of the claim. Indeed, as explicitly shown in Figs. 5 and 6, the outline of the substrate 10 is larger than the outline of the chip 19. While the Official Action refers to the disclosure of Figs. 5 and 6 in

the reference, it should be noted that Fig. 4 is a plan view of the same structure; Fig. 5 is a sectional view taken in Fig. 4. (Col. 2, lns. 15-16.) As a matter of law, the § 102 rejection must be withdrawn.

Further, although no rejection under § 103 has been advanced, it is noted that the relative sizes of the substrate and chip in *Hinrichsmeyer*'s structure are not arbitrary choices. *Hinrichsmeyer* contemplates a stacking arrangement using electrically conductive elements referred to as "external card connection means 17." (Col. 2, lns. 52-53; Fig. 4.) Card connection means 17 on different substrates or "carriers" 10 are connected to one another by S-shaped connector clips 24. (Col. 3, lns. 6-8.) Nothing in *Hinrichsmeyer* has been advanced as suggesting how this arrangement could be or should be accommodated if one were to modify the reference so as to make the outline of the carrier substantially the same as the outline of the chip.

The same reasons apply with respect to claims 2-6, dependent on claim 1. Moreover, independent claims 8, 22 and 26 incorporate the same recitations concerning the outline of the substrate (referred to in claim 26 as an "interposer") and the outline of the chip. Thus, the same reasons apply with respect to claims 8-18, 22-24, 26-31 and 33-34, as well. It is, accordingly, unnecessary to discuss the additional features recited in these claims.

Claims 7, 19, 25 and 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over *Hinrichsmeyer* "as applied to" claims 1, 18 and 31. The same distinctions discussed above apply with respect to this rejection as well. As pointed out above, *Hinrichsmeyer* does not teach the features of the independent claims and, accordingly, cannot render the dependent claims obvious.

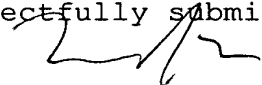
Reconsideration and withdrawal of the present rejections are respectfully requested. As pointed out in the preliminary amendment filed concurrently with the application, claims 1-34, inclusive, interfere with claims 1-36 of U.S. Patent 6,049,129. Declaration of such interference is respectfully requested.

If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that he/she telephone applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which he might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Dated: October 6, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By   
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